

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 IO-13 EA-07 NEA-10
/092 W

-----181411 094547 /47

O P 181339Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5745

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GW, UG, US

SUBJECT: DEATH OF ARCHBISHOP LUWUM IN UGANDA

REF: STATE 37319

FONOFF DESK OFFICER FOR UGANDA HAS PASSED US THE
FOLLOWING REPORT FROM THE FRG EMBASSY IN KAMPALA. HE
SAID HE HOPED TO RECEIVE FURTHER REPORTS FROM KAMPALA
AND WOULD KEEP US INFORMED. THE FOLLOWING REPORT, DATED
FEBRUARY 17, WAS RECEIVED BY HIM THIS MORNING.

BEGIN TEXT

SUBJECT: DOMESTIC SITUATION AFTER THE ALLEGED COUP
ATTEMPT AGAINST AMIN

1. ACCORDING TO A GOVERNMENT REPORT, THE MINISTERS
OREYMA (LAND AND WATER RESOURCES), OBOTH-OFUMBI
(INTERIOR) AND THE PROTESTANT ARCHBISHOP LUWUM, WHO HAD
BEEN ARRESTED ON FEBRUARY 16, 1977, WERE KILLED IN A
CAR ACCIDENT. THE REPORT, DATED FEBRUARY 17, STATED
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THAT THE ARRESTED PERSONS HAD ATTEMPTED TO OVERWHELM
MAJOR MOSES (FROM THE SECURITY FORCES) DURING THE
RIDE TO INTERROGATION, THEREBY CAUSING THEIR DEATHS
AND SERIOUS INJURY TO MAJOR MOSES. THE EMBASSY HAS
SUFFICIENT INDICATIONS THAT THE CAR ACCIDENT WAS FAKED
AND THAT BOTH THE ARCHBISHOP AND THE MINISTERS WERE
MURDERED IN THE EVENING HOURS OF FEBRUARY 16, ON

ORDERS FROM AMIN.

2. THE ARRESTS ON FEBRUARY 16 WERE PRECEDED BY TWO EVENTS. THE MORNING EVENT TOOK PLACE IN THE OPEN IN FRONT OF THE GOVERNMENT HOTEL "NILE MANSION." AMIN DID NOT APPEAR BUT ALL MINISTERS, STATE SECRETARIES AND CHIEFS OF MISSION WERE INVITED. BETWEEN 500 TO 700 MEMBERS OF THE ARMY AND SECURITY FORCES WERE ALSO PRESENT, IN MILITARY FORMATION. APPROXIMATELY 50 CHINESE SUBMACHINE GUNS WITH AMMUNITION AND SUITCASES PRODUCED IN CHINA, ALLEGEDLY USED FOR TRANSPORT OF WEAPONS, WERE ON DISPLAY IN THE SQUARE. ARCHBISHOP LUWUM AS WELL AS SIX OTHER PROTESTANT BISHOPS AND CARDINAL NSUBUGA WERE PLACED SEPARATELY AND VISIBLE TO ALL.

THE ALLEGED PURPOSE OF THE MORNING EVENT WAS THE DISCLOSURE OF THE BACKGROUND OF THE COUP ATTEMPT AGAINST AMIN AND THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT. THE FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION, MR. ANYURU HAD TO READ A 13-PAGE PAMPHLET ALOUD, WHICH CARRIED THE SIGNATURE OF OBOTE. AMONG THE POINTS CONTAINED IN THE PAMPHLET WERE:

-- THE AMIN REGIME IS A "ONE MAN SHOW," SUPPORTED BY COLLABORATORS LIKE THE KAKWAS, THE LUGBARAS, THE MADIS, THE MOSLEMS, THE ARABS, THE RUSSIANS, THE BAGANDAS, THE BASOGAS AND "LAZY WESTERN TRIBES";
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-- AMIN HAD RELIED INITIALLY ON THE ISRAELIS AND HAD BEEN THEIR TOOL;

-- LATER ON HE HAD SUBSCRIBED TO THE ARABS; NOW THE RUSSIANS ARE THE "MASTER KILLERS ASSISTED BY THE ARABS OF LIBYA, IRAQ AND EGYPT.";

-- "WE (THE LANGIS AND ACHOLIS) MUST BE PREPARED FOR SOMETHING MORE BLOODY"; ALL ARABS IN UGANDA WILL HAVE TO BE EXTERMINATED;

-- THE CHINESE SHALL BE USED TO "GET RID" OF THE RUSSIANS. "WE MUST PRETEND THAT WE SHALL BASE OUR SOCIALISTIC WAY ON THE CHINESE MODEL SO AS TO GET THEIR SUPPORT AND THEIR ARMS. WE CAN DO WHAT WE WANT AFTER OUR SUCCESS.";

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PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 IO-13 EA-07 NEA-10
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O P 181339Z FEB 77
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-- ONLY THE LANGIS AND THE ACHOLIS WERE LEFT
WITH EMPTY HANDS WHEN AMIN CONFISCATED THE PROPERTY OF
THE INNOCENT INDIANS AND GAVE IT TO THE NUBIANS,
KAKWAS, ANYANYAS AND MOSLEMS;

-- UNDER "ORGANIZATION AND MOBILIZATION",
INSTRUCTIONS WERE GIVEN FOR THE OVERTHROWING OF THE
AMIN REGIME WHICH WERE NOT QUITE UNDERSTANDABLE. THE
SECOND PARAGRAPH,, BASED ON STYLE AND EXPOSE, CLEARLY
POINTS TO COMMUNIST AND RADICAL ARAB CO-AUTHORSHIP
("WE MUST MOBILIZE THE WORKERS AND THE MASSES",
"MOSLEMS MUST BE SLAUGHTERED LIKE CHICKENS")

PARTICULARLY MALICIOUS IS THE END OF THE PAMPHLET,
STATING THAT ARCHBISHOP LUWUM AND BISHOP OKOT FROM
BUKEDI HAD BEEN PERSONAL RECIPIENTS OF THE CHINESE
WEAPONS DESTINED FOR THE OVERTHROW.

THE PAMPHLET OBVIOUSLY IS A FALSIFICATION, PROBABLY
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BASED ON AN OBOTE PAPER OF THREE TO FOUR YEARS BACK.
IT DISTINCTLY CARRIES THE HANDWRITING OF NON-UGANDANS,
PRESUMABLY COMMUNISTS AND PALESTINIANS AND POSSIBLY
OTHER ARABS.

AFTER MR. ANYURU, FOUR MORE ALLEGED CO-CONSPIRATORS
(AN EMPLOYEE OF THE LABOR MINISTRY, THREE OFFICERS OF
THE MALIRE MECHANIZED BATTALION) HAD TO READ STATE-
MENTS ALOUD, HANDED TO THEM BY VICE PRESIDENT AND
DEFENSE MINISTER MUSTAFA WHICH WERE INTENDED TO SERVE
AS EVIDENCE OF THE CONSPIRACY AGAINST AMIN.

IN PARTICULAR, MR. ANYURU SHOWED MARKS OF ILL-TREATMENT.
HE COLLAPSED TWICE DURING THE READING OF THE ALLEGED
OBOTE CIRCULAR LETTER AND WAS PRODDED WITH RIFLE-BUTTS
BY ARMED "MARINES." TO BE CONTINUED ELLERKMANN

END TEXT
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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